

5                    **BATCH PROCESS FOR MAKING HIGH FLASH POINT PITCH**

**Abstract of the Disclosure**

10                    A method for producing a high-flash-point impregnating pitch that comprises  
charging coal tar into a batch still; heating the coal tar to an intermediate liquid state of  
soft pitch; maintaining the intermediate temperature of the soft pitch at a steady level; and  
introducing sparging gas while maintaining the temperature of the coal tar at a  
substantially steady level. The method of the present invention provides a pitch that has a  
15                    softening point of about 90°C and a flash point of above about 270°C.